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THE LAW OF BANKRUPTCY. Edwin C. Brandenburg. Third Edition. Chicago: Callaghan & Company. 1903. pp. lxi, 1032.

This is the third edition of a well-known work, and can scarcely be recommended as a scholarly exposition of the theory and practice of the law of bankruptcy. However, the author appears to have planned it to serve only as a ready guide for the busy lawyer through the intricacies of the present Federal bankruptcy statute, and it seems to be well calculated to be of use to one who needs that sort of book. Evidence of care in the writing is not lacking, and the material in hand has been judiciously arranged, so that all that relates to each topic is easily accessible to the reader: but, like many of our legal text books, this is likely to be found serviceable, chiefly as a digest.

In form, the plan of the earlier editions has been followed with but little modification. In the opening chapter is found a summary of the history of bankruptcy legislation at home and abroad, which might have been amplified with advantage. The various sections of the statute now in force are given in order, each section being followed in the text by appropriate comment on its phraseology and scope, with illustrations drawn from decided cases and suggestions of the author, in the main well-considered and helpful, on such points as have not yet been the subject of adjudication. There is copious citation of decisions under the old and new statutes and reference to the rules and orders of Court; the analogous provisions of the Act of 1867 appear in the foot-notes. Following the body of the treatise come the rules, forms and orders, the text of the present statute and that of the Act of 1867, and an index which is unusually full.

The importance of the amendments of the current year made necessary a revision of the second edition, and the author has taken advantage of the opportunity thus afforded by bettering his treatment of the subject in several respects. The volume of decisions rendered since the publication of the last preceding edition has aided in this. A portion of the text has been rewritten, many new cases have been included, and needed rearrangement of the subject-matter has been made, while the author's comment is fuller and more helpful.

COMMENTARIES ON THE LAW OF STATUTORY CRIMES. Joel Prentiss Bishop. Third Edition by Marion C. Early. Chicago: T. H. Flood & Company. 1903. pp. xv, 997.

This well-known work requires no extended introduction to the legal profession. Originally published as supplementary to the author's Criminal Law, it has long been the standard authority on the subject with which it deals. Its introductory chapters on classification and interpretation of written laws have wide application and are of value outside the narrow limits of the Statutory Law of Crimes. The new edition appears without any substantial modification of the plan and scope of the earlier edition. The original text has been preserved in its entirety, all new matter being

appended in the form of notes. The work of revision has been practically limited to bringing the work down to date by the collection of late cases extending or modifying the principles discussed in the text, and in all about four thousand new citations have been added. Only constant use will reveal the care and accuracy with which this work has been done. It appears, however, to have been done in a manner to justify the publication of the new edition and to commend the work to all interested in the enactment or enforcement of criminal statutes.

A BRIEF FOR THE TRIAL OF CRIMINAL CAUSES. Austin Abbott. Second Edition. Rochester: Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Company. 1902. pp. xx, 814.

This work is devised to render the same assistance in the trial of criminal causes as that afforded in civil causes by Abbott's Trial Brief in Civil Cases. Like the first edition, it contains nothing novel and little which could not be obtained from the various legal publications devoted to the topics of which it treats. Its value lies rather in its arrangement in convenient form of the various topics which may demand consideration during the progress of a criminal trial and in the collection of concise digests of the cases having a more or less direct bearing on each topic. The result is a "handy" work of reference which is never scientific, seldom exhaustive, but always suggestive. Although double the size of the first edition, no indication is given of what is new and what is old matter; and as the revision is prepared by the un-named editorial staff of the publishers, not only is its authority anonymous, but a doubt is raised as to the uniformity of the revision, which can only be settled by constant reference to the reports of the cases cited. We are confident, however, that the new edition will be found a convenient means of tracing the authorities bearing upon the debatable questions which may arise in this branch of practice.

COLLATERAL INHERITANCE AND TRANSFER TAX LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, ETC. By Edward H. Fallows, Transfer Tax Attorney for the State Comptroller in New York County. Associate Editor, George M. Judd. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Co. 1903. pp. xv, 305.

Mr. Fallows' and Mr. Judd's book does not pretend to be a scientific treatise on the subject of succession taxation generally or even within the state of New York. The plan of the book is, as stated in the preface, "to present every successive Collateral Inheritance and Transfer Tax Law in the State of New York * * * with the decisions of the different courts grouped under the respective sections of the law which they affect." The result is a great deal of repetition and an absolutely unreadable book. But while the plan adopted is unfortunate from the point of view of the student of the subject, it is unquestionably useful from that of the practicing lawyer who wishes to find out what are the obligations of his clients. For the exact state of the law as it existed at